LEADE aucator



CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM

SUMMER 2004

MISSION STATEMENT

The
LEAD Educator is a
quarterly
publication of the
Long Beach
Childhood Lead
Poisoning
Prevention
Program.

Our goal is to provide news and information about childhood lead poisoning prevention measures for parents, childcare providers and the medical community.

In addition, we provide current information on lead poisoning screening and legislative measures.

NEWS

CLPPP Goals and Achievements

In 1989, Public Health Nursing began providing case management services to children with elevated blood lead levels and their families. As the need for additional outreach and case management services increased, the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) was established under the direction of Public Health Bureau, Nursing Division.

Since 1997, CLPPP has created effective partnerships with governmental agencies and community-based organizations with continued support and funding from the California Department of Health Services.

In addition, CLPPP has launched successful National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week outreach and education campaigns, dozens of workshops with Head Start parents, health fairs and the sponsorship of three grand rounds at local hospitals. While our efforts have reached hundreds of parents, childcare and health care providers; there is still much work to be done. We strongly believe that an informed public is better able to protect children from lead poisoning. While our overall goal is to prevent children from exposure to lead, the following six goals highlight our ongoing work and commitment to Long Beach area residents:

- Administer local Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.
- Decrease the exposure of children to lead and the incidence of childhood lead poisoning.
- Improve the detection of lead-poisoned children by assuring that all at-risk children receive blood lead tests at appropriate ages.
- Meet the standards of care of all lead-poisoned children under case management.
- Identify and eliminate lead hazards during Environmental Investigations.
- Maintain a surveillance system for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of information of childhood lead poisoning for effective case management, epidemiology, evaluation, and

program planning.





Nurse-Family Partnership Program

The Nurse-Family Partnership Program is a unique program designed for first time moms and their newborns. The goals of the program are as follows; improve pregnancy outcomes, promote child health and development, and maternal life course development. Participants involved in the program will receive home visits by a Public Health Nurse (PHN) to educate on pregnancy, maternal child health, infancy, child development, parenting, nutrition, immunization and provide links to additional resources and services. A key to the success of the program is education, which is why the Public Health Nurse provides counseling and guidance at home twice a month until the newborn is two years old. Eligible participants must be expecting their first baby, be less than 28 weeks pregnant and reside in Long Beach. For more information, please contact Marita Santos, RN, PHN (562) 427-7072 or Doljai Chaikumnerd, RN, PHN (562) 427-4806.

Look for the Lead *Educator* on the World Wide Web Fall 2004!

http://www.longbeach.gov/health/default.asp

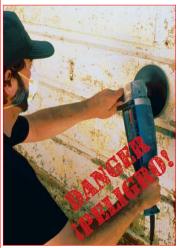
HEALTH EDUCATION

Home improvement projects; what you should know about disturbing old paint.

Summer is the time of year for vacations, long holiday weekends and the all-famous barbeque party. For many of us, summer is also the time of year for big do-it-yourself home improvement projects. Perhaps it is time to replace those old windows or add a covered patio to your home to keep your guests cool during the dog days of summer.

Before you reach for your gloves and head out to the nearest home improvement store, consider the dangers this work may incur and think about the potential health impacts to you and your family.

If you plan to replace old windows, doors or knock walls at home or maybe you want to give your house a new facelift and decide that sandblasting is a good start, think "LEAD" and lots of it! Especially if you live in a home built before 1978, the older the home the higher the odds are that your home has lead, a highly toxic metal found in old paint. Lead is especially dangerous for young children due to their hand-to-mouth behavior, which puts them at greater risk for lead ingestion. Some of the problems associated with low and moderate exposure to lead in children are hyperactivity, irritability and poor academic achievement.



Lead is also dangerous for adults, especially pregnant women and people who are in contact with lead in the workplace on a daily basis. Lead can cause headaches, irritability, poor concentration and memory loss in adults. Moreover, temporary exposure to lead dust can cause significant amounts of lead to enter the body and cause harm.

Some home remodeling and renovation activities such as sandblasting, scraping, sanding or burning paint are particularly dangerous as these activities can release large amounts of lead dust or vapor into the air. Therefore, it is recommended that a professional contractor who is certified in lead abatement and remediation do the work.

If you live in Long Beach and are planning to renovate or remodel your home including electrical, mechanical or plumbing work, you will need a permit from the Planning and Building Department.

Furthermore, any work involving paint removal from exterior walls requires lead testing if the structure was built before 1978 or when requesting a sandblasting permit. The initial lead testing fee is \$65 but does not include an additional fee for the actual sandblasting permit. Please note that the permit will only be issued to a licensed sandblasting contractor and not the property owner.

For more information regarding sandblasting permits, you may call the city's Department of Planning and Building at (562) 570-6651 or you can download the form online at: http://www.longbeach.gov/plan/resources/downloads.asp, look for the "Application for a Lead Paint Verification and Testing." Completed forms must be mailed or turned in at City Hall: Department of Planning and Building 333 W. Ocean Boulevard, 4th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Report

New Lead Cases For (Jan-July, 2004):

6

Number of Blood Lead Tests in July:

536

Levels: < 2µg/dL

46%

Levels: < 9.5µg/dL

54%

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For additional information, please call the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at (562) 570-4203 or (562) 570-7923 (Spanish)

Medi-Cal and Healthy Families

Call: (562) 570-7979

Or

1 (800) 832-2307

INFORMATION ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

California Department of Health Services http://www.dhs.ca.gov/childlead/

> Alliance for Healthy Homes http://www.afhh.org

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/lead.htm

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) www.hud.gov/offices/lead/ T.D.D. (562) 570-4230

This document is available in an alternative format by request: (562) 570-7923